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AURORA Wiki - A Touch of the Divine

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HEATHENS

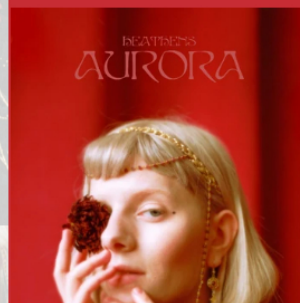
EDIT

"**Heathens**" is the thirtieth single released by AURORA and the fourth single from her album, *The Gods We Can Touch*. On December 3, 2021, the song was officially released worldwide.^{[1][2]}

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- About the song
- Lyrics
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Heathens



Song

Artist	AURORA
Album	<i>The Gods We Can Touch</i>
Released	December 3, 2021
Length	3:45 3:44 (Vinyl Version)
Label	Decca Records Glassnote Petroleum Records
Writer(s)	AURORA Magnus Skylstad Odd Martin Skålnes
Producer(s)	AURORA Magnus Skylstad
God/Goddess	Persephone

Singles Chronology

Previous	Next
"Midas Touch"	"A Dangerous Thing"

The Gods We Can Touch standard chronology

Previous	Next
"Exist for Love"	"The Innocent"

The Gods We Can Touch alternative chronology

Previous	Next
"Exist for Love"	"Blood in the Wine"

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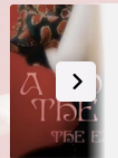
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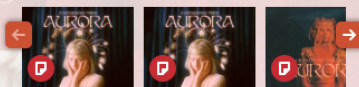
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About the song

Aurora explained to Australian radio station *Triple J*^[3] that the track is inspired by the classic tale from the Book of Genesis, she said:

"A long, long time ago, Eve took a bite of a forbidden apple hanging from the tree of evil and good. [...] In her act of doing so, she granted humans free will; I just think that is very beautiful, and I wanted to honour her and women like her, who little by little granted us freedom in this world. A freedom to live as we please, to explore and taste. I think life should be lived in all of its colours, and that is why we live like heathens."

Aurora later explained to Apple Music:

"The mother in this song, she offers love and room and a home to all the people that aren't welcome elsewhere. That's the spirit of the song. It's very inspired by women, especially how many women have been punished and burned just for being women. It's an ode to women."^{[4][5]}

Adding to that when she spoke to *Numero Tokyo*:

"Human beings are beautiful because they have some missing parts and humanity. But especially we women have a history of being embarrassed in thinking, raising opinions, expressing our sexuality, everything. I think it's very strange that you have to stand up and seize the right you should have. 'Heathens' is a hymn not only to women, but to all those who have not been respected."^[6]

In an interview with *Aurora France*, Aurora said: "Heathens is very hard to sing cause you have to sing the whole chorus in one breath."^{[7][8]}

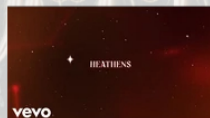
Lyrics

She bargains with the world
So everything she wants will come to her
With no greed inside her mind
She knows what she deserves

We fell from sky with grace
And landed in her soft and warm embrace
She gave her love, her gift of life
So we could live with her

Lyrics copied from the official lyrics video.^[9]

Lyric video



Audio



Trivia

- A slightly different version of this song appeared on alternative tracklist vinyls of *The Gods We Can Touch*, where it is sometimes listed as "Vinyl Version".^[10]
 - Differences in the "Vinyl Version" include different percussion and guitar.

- The song was first discovered in various song repertoires in early 2021.^[11]
- When registered on ASCAP, the song credits were mistakenly mixed with those of "Heathen" by Sly and Robbie featuring Lutan Fyah.^[12]
- The song's instrumental was leaked shortly after its release.^[13]
- Physical releases of *The Gods We Can Touch* include printed lyrics that do not appear in the song.^[14] These lyrics were also found in the video description on official YouTube videos for "Heathens", but were later removed there.^[15] Four lines in- or before the song's bridge:

If I believe in you, the light you give
 But I need free will
 The part of life
 You can't forgive

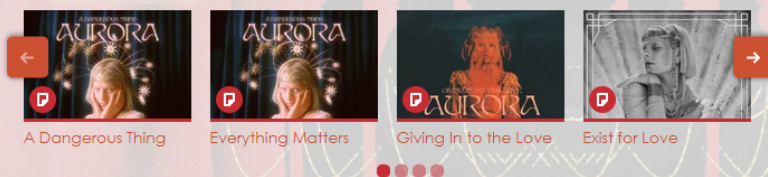
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7 comments

 JuliRomero1301 · 12/29/2021 ⋮

OMG WAIT A MINUTE
 Have you guys noticed that before she starts singing the bridge (Everything you touch stuff) there's a lot of noise and melody after the chorus, and in that part sounds her voice, as she's speaking, something similar to The Seed?
 What if she says there (Or was actually removed from a Demo or something):
 "If I believe in you, the light you give but I need free willThe part of life you can't forgive"
 ???
 I just asked that to myself because can't get how that beautiful part wasn't used but I still hear some whispers around 1:55
 Can someone explain?

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 JuliRomero1301 · 1/3/2022 ⋮

WORDS? Really?

I'm not a native English speaker so is kinda hard for me. But Wow I'm not crazy at all since someone heard words too



Ozzyosirismoon · 1/3/2022

I know what words you mean! 1:54 or 1:55 is the timestamp. I think its just a vocalisation, if I had to say it was a word, I'd say it was "evil". definitely something with two syllables. I might be able to hear quieter words afterwards but I cant tell, I think its just that



JuliRomero1301 · 1/3/2022

You are right Osiris. Is way too short to be that whole verse even if it's hidden haha. Just my crazy mind



A Fandom user · 1/27/2022

Instead I hear some shouting or undetectable words behind You Keep Me Crawling vocal. Or it's just me?



Dagon Chernovski · 12/4/2021

Awesome as always. Hopefully she keeps doing good compositions.



Ozzyosirismoon · 12/4/2021

ikr! these singles are really painting an amazing picture of the album,



A Fandom user · 12/3/2021

OMG, one section of the song is so similar to "Buzzcut Season" from Lorde that you can even sing along with each other lyrics! I love her so much that I'll blame Magnus for this :P . Stop being a copycat, please.



ItHappenedQuiet · 12/3/2021

I definitely hear the similarity (I'm a longtime fan of both), but I think it's just a shared chord progression, not intentional copying. Both songs are great and unique :)



A Fandom user · 12/5/2021

Yeah! In "Buzzcut Season" that part is in the pre-chorus but in "Heathens" is just in the verses. So I don't think Aurora is like copying Lorde but I liked the similarity tho. <3



JuliRomero1301 · 12/2/2021

I didn't expect this.
Let me say I never was this surprised and impressed listening to a new Aurora song... This is unique, this is different. Cry



A Fandom user · 12/2/2021

How do we know it will be released on midnight?



ItHappenedQuiet · 12/2/2021

It has already been released in some places at midnight local time!



ItHappenedQuiet · 12/2/2021

So excited!!!!



A Fandom user · 10/19/2021

I just know this song will be awesome. I don't know why, but I do.



JuliRomero1301 · 12/2/2021

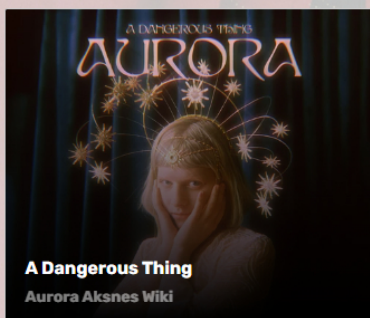


You were right my friend.

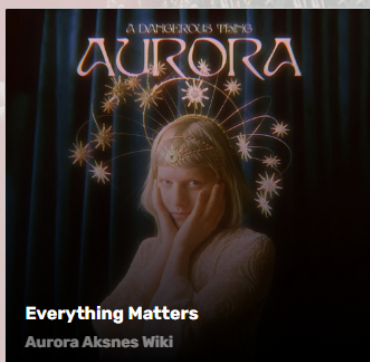
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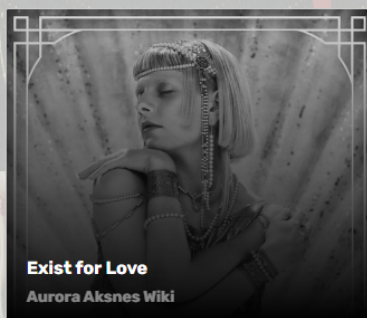
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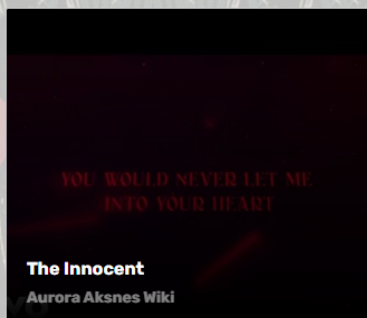
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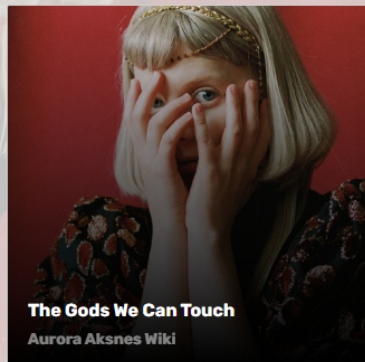
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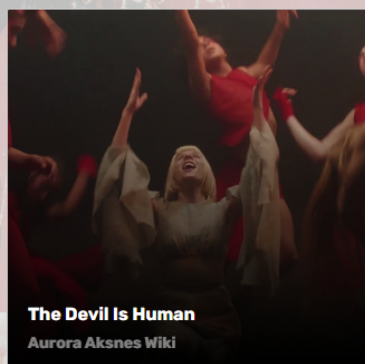
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